



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/728,433	12/08/2003	Ravi Bommegowda	120 05842US	9437
128 7590 07/27/2007 HONEYWELL INTERNATIONAL INC. 101 COLUMBIA ROAD P O BOX 2245 MORRISTOWN, NJ 07962-2245			EXAMINER SYED, FARHAN M	
			ART UNIT 2165	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 07/27/2007	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	Application No. 10/728,433	Applicant(s) BOMMEGOWDA ET AL.	
	Examiner Farhan M. Syed	Art Unit 2165	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --**

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 May 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                       | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application                       |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

### DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-18 are pending.

#### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Mitchell et al (U.S. Patent 6,356,933/ U.S. Patent Publication 2001/0042094 and known hereinafter as Mitchell).

As per claims 1 and 13, Mitchell teaches a method of enabling a first client system to access a first database in a manufacturing plant, wherein said first database is designed to be accessed using a second interface implemented in a second client system by not implemented in said first client system, such that second client system, but not said first client system can access said first database, wherein said first client system and said second client system are comprised in a plurality of client systems, said method comprising (i.e. *"Contemporary computer networks consist of a number of computer systems, called nodes, communicating with other computer systems via communication links. Typically, some of the nodes are client nodes and other nodes are server nodes. A client node formulates and delivers queries to a server node. A user of the client node enters the queries through a user interface operating on the client node. The server node evaluates the queries and delivers responses to the client*

*node for display on the client user interface.*" *"The present invention provides a mechanism by which the user interface portion of the application can be delivered to the computer user either on the same machine on which the application is executing or on another machine remote from the machine executing the application. The invention separates the user interface from the underlying application enabling the user interactive portion of the application to be extremely simple. The invention also permits the user interactive portion to be deployed on a wide range of client hardware environments without bringing with it all the required logic for performing the functionality of a particular application. These features give the user the effect of directly interacting with whole application even though the main part of the application is potentially running somewhere else."* *"Thus, the present invention overcomes many of the problems faced by traditional approaches outlined above. User interface, event handling and screen rendering logic stay on the client, thus dramatically reducing network traffic and latency. The entire user interface and how that interface connects to application components on the server are sent as a pure data description to the client (rather than code). This description is "interpreted" by the client to render the graphics user interface (GUI) and connect to the application (through the transfer of state) running either in the same process space (same machine) or on the server (remote machine)."* The preceding text clearly indicates that a first client system is the user interface and the second client interface is the server or a remote machine that is used to access the first database, which is an application that interacts with the second interface. Furthermore, the Examiner understands that the preamble breathes life into the claims such that the preamble anticipates the concept of remote desktop connection, which is clearly exemplified throughout the prior art of record.)(Column 2, lines 12-39): **executing a user application which is related to operation/control of a manufacturing process in said manufacturing plant (i.e.** *"A method for efficiently transferring data between a client and a server includes the steps of: providing an application program; providing an application-independent client process effecting a plurality of client states; providing an application-independent server process effecting a plurality of server states; transferring data from the server process to the client process in response to an application program; and updating at least one client state in response to the transferred data. A related apparatus is also*

Art Unit: 2165

disclosed..” The preceding text clearly indicates that a user application is an application. The operation/control of a manufacturing process in a manufacturing plant is the intended use of the database system.)(Abstract); enabling said user to instantiate a user interface (i.e. visual display device or GUI)(column 3, lines 49-67) from said user application (i.e. *application*)(Column 3, lines 49-67, column 4, lines 1-15); enabling said user to specify said first database of interest and a search criteria (i.e. queries)(column 1, lines 12-27) using said user interface (i.e. visual display device or GUI)(column 3, lines 49-67); sending said search criteria (i.e. queries) to said second client (i.e. client nodes)(Column 1, lines 12-27); receiving a corresponding response representing a result of a search performed (i.e. queries) in said first database (Microsoft's Computer Dictionary 5<sup>th</sup> Ed., page 433, defines query as ‘to extract data from a database and present it for use’. Therefore, the use of a query, clearly suggests an involvement of a database.) using said search criteria (i.e. “In use, and referring to FIG. 5, a developer first designs (step 710) the layout of the user interface 116 that will ultimately be displayed on the user workstation 110 and in so doing establishes the relationships between the control objects 624 (FIG. 4) and the server components 136. Once this information is formulated, it is stored (step 712) in a description file 310. When the AICP 114 transmits a request to execute an application program 420 on the web server 130, the transaction processor 430 (FIG. 2) receives (step 714) the request, instantiates (step 718) an AISP 134 associated with the application program 420 if an instance is not already loaded in memory, and launches (step 720) the application program 420. Once the AICP 114 receives the description file 310, it transmits a connection request to the AISP 134. The AISP 134 receives (step 722) the connection request and loads (step 724) the description file 310 associated with the requested application program 420 into server memory.” The preceding text clearly indicates that the corresponding response is a state change that is transferred from the second client interface to the first client interface.)(Column 6, lines 25-42); and displaying said corresponding response (i.e. “*State changes for a particular visual context (e.g., a dialog) are sent to the AICP 114 as one logical packet for optimization reasons, although the structure of*

Art Unit: 2165

*the state change packet is identical regardless if a single state change or a plurality of state changes occurred. At this point, the control objects 624 are actively connected to the server components 136 so that state changes on either side are reflected in the other. Once the control objects 624 reflect the current server component state 442, the dialog is then displayed (step 820) to the user via the user interface 116.*" The preceding text clearly indicates that displaying said corresponding response is the state changes that are displayed on the user interface.)(column 9, lines 28-37).

As per claims 2 and 14, Mitchell teaches a method said method further comprising: enabling said user to specify any desired one of multiple client systems and an operation associated with data forming said corresponding response (i.e. *"A physical connection exists between the AICP 114 and AISP 134. This physical connection can be either network based (server and client being different nodes on a network) or memory based (server and client being on the same computer system). This means that control objects can be connected to server components where they both exist on the same or different physical machines (as well as the same process on the same machine or different processes on different machines)."* The preceding text clearly indicates that enabling user to specify any desired one of multiple client systems is control objects can be connected to server components where they both exist on the same or different physical machines.)(Column 5, lines 42-50); executing said operation in said desired one of multiple client systems (i.e. *"The connection information can be delineated in a description file in a variety of formats, such as in XML format as discussed below. The XML data also includes the GUI layout description (i.e., user interface data 448 in FIG. 2). Whenever a control object 624 is associated to a server component 136 within a GUI layout (a dialog window), the connection description is included (in context) with the layout information. This is the information the AICP 114 uses to run the application and display the results to the user. Once a dialog is running via the AICP 114, state changes that occur on either the control objects (control states) or server components (component state 442, FIG. 2) are packaged and sent between the AICP 114 and AISP 134. This is a two-way connection and is asynchronous to minimize interactive latency."*

The previous text clearly indicates that a user to specify an operation associated with data forming is the creation of the item displayed and executing the operation is the report generated.)(Column 5, lines 51-65).

As per claims 3 and 15, Mitchell teaches a method wherein said user interface is implemented in the form of an access module executed when said user instantiates said user interface, said method further comprising: receiving data representing said operation in said user application (i.e. *"In use, and referring to FIG. 5, a developer first designs (step 710) the layout of the user interface 116 that will ultimately be displayed on the user workstation 110 and in so doing establishes the relationships between the control objects 624 (FIG. 4) and the server components 136. Once this information is formulated, it is stored (step 712) in a description file 310. When the AICP 114 transmits a request to execute an application program 420 on the web server 130, the transaction processor 430 (FIG. 2) receives (step 714) the request, instantiates (step 718) an AISP 134 associated with the application program 420 if an instance is not already loaded in memory, and launches (step 720) the application program 420. Once the AICP 114 receives the description file 310, it transmits a connection request to the AISP 134. The AISP 134 receives (step 722) the connection request and loads (step 724) the description file 310 associated with the requested application program 420 into server memory."*)(Column 6, lines 25-42); and sending said data representing said operation and data representing said response to said second client, wherein said second client executes said operation using said response(i.e. *"In use, and referring to FIG. 5, a developer first designs (step 710) the layout of the user interface 116 that will ultimately be displayed on the user workstation 110 and in so doing establishes the relationships between the control objects 624 (FIG. 4) and the server components 136. Once this information is formulated, it is stored (step 712) in a description file 310. When the AICP 114 transmits a request to execute an application program 420 on the web server 130, the transaction processor 430 (FIG. 2) receives (step 714) the request, instantiates*

(step 718) an AISP 134 associated with the application program 420 if an instance is not already loaded in memory, and launches (step 720) the application program 420. Once the AICP 114 receives the description file 310, it transmits a connection request to the AISP 134. The AISP 134 receives (step 722) the connection request and loads (step 724) the description file 310 associated with the requested application program 420 into server memory.”)(Column 6, lines 25-42).

As per claims 4 and 16, Mitchell teaches a method wherein said data representing said response comprises an identifier of the data retrieved from said database of interest (i.e. *“Contemporary computer networks consist of a number of computer systems, called nodes, communicating with other computer systems via communication links. Typically, some of the nodes are client nodes and other nodes are server nodes. A client node formulates and delivers queries to a server node. A user of the client node enters the queries through a user interface operating on the client node. The server node evaluates the queries and delivers responses to the client node for display on the client user interface.”* The preceding text clearly indicates that an identifier of the data retrieved is the associated identifier. These fields are contained in the Status Report tool of the Project Management Tool, which is part of the database management system.)(Column 1, lines 12-27).

As per claims 5 and 9, Mitchell teaches a method of enabling a new user application to access data in a plurality of databases accessible through a plurality of client systems, wherein each of said plurality of databases is accessible by a corresponding interface which is potentially implemented by only some of said plurality of client systems such that each of said plurality of client systems is already designed to access data in only some of said plurality of databases (i.e. *“Contemporary computer networks consist of a number of computer systems, called nodes, communicating with other computer systems via communication links. Typically, some of the nodes are client nodes and other nodes are server nodes. A*



Art Unit: 2165

*client node formulates and delivers queries to a server node. A user of the client node enters the queries through a user interface operating on the client node. The server node evaluates the queries and delivers responses to the client node for display on the client user interface.* "The present invention provides a mechanism by which the user interface portion of the application can be delivered to the computer user either on the same machine on which the application is executing or on another machine remote from the machine executing the application. The invention separates the user interface from the underlying application enabling the user interactive portion of the application to be extremely simple. The invention also permits the user interactive portion to be deployed on a wide range of client hardware environments without bringing with it all the required logic for performing the functionality of a particular application. These features give the user the effect of directly interacting with whole application even though the main part of the application is potentially running somewhere else." "Thus, the present invention overcomes many of the problems faced by traditional approaches outlined above. User interface, event handling and screen rendering logic stay on the client, thus dramatically reducing network traffic and latency. The entire user interface and how that interface connects to application components on the server are sent as a pure data description to the client (rather than code). This description is "interpreted" by the client to render the graphics user interface (GUI) and connect to the application (through the transfer of state) running either in the same process space (same machine) or on the server (remote machine)." The preceding text clearly indicates that a first client system is the user interface and the second client interface is the server or a remote machine that is used to access the first database, which is an application that interacts with the second interface. Furthermore, the Examiner understands that the preamble breathes life into the claims such that the preamble anticipates the concept of remote desktop connection, which is clearly exemplified throughout the prior art of record.)(Column 2, lines 12-39), wherein said new user application and said plurality of client systems are related to operation/control of a manufacturing process in a manufacturing plant, said method comprising (i.e. "A method for efficiently transferring data between a client and a server includes the steps of: providing an application program; providing an application-independent client process effecting a

Art Unit: 2165

plurality of client states; providing an application-independent server process effecting a plurality of server states; transferring data from the server process to the client process in response to an application program; and updating at least one client state in response to the transferred data. A related apparatus is also disclosed..” The preceding text clearly indicates that a user application is an application. The operation/control of a manufacturing process in a manufacturing plant is the intended use of the database system.)(Abstract): implementing a first plurality of procedures according to a first interface on each of said plurality of client systems, wherein said first plurality of procedures are implemented on a second client system contained in said plurality of client systems, wherein said first plurality of procedures enable retrieval of desired data from a first database accessible from said second client system (i.e. “Referring to FIG. 1, a user that wishes to access information and execute applications on the Internet 120 typically has a computer workstation 110 that executes an application program known as a web browser 112. An application independent client process (AICP) 114, in accordance with the present invention, in one embodiment, is provided as a plug-in to the web browser 112. The user interacts with the web browser 112 and AICP 114 via a user interface 116 that in one embodiment includes a data entry device (e.g., a keyboard) and a visual display device (e.g., a computer monitor). Under the control of web browser 112, the user workstation 110 sends a web page request 122 over the Internet 120. Web page data can be in the form of text, graphics and other forms of information. Each web server computer system 130 on the Internet 120 has a known address (a URL) which the user must supply to the web browser 112 in order to connect to the appropriate web server 130. Because web server 130 can contain more than one web page, the user will also specify in the address which particular web page 124 he or she wants to view on web server 130. The web server computer system 130 executes a web server application program 132, monitors requests, and services requests for which it has responsibility. When a request specifies web server 130, web server application program 132 generally accesses a web page 124 corresponding to the specific web page request 122, and transmits the web page 124 to the user workstation 110. The web page request 122 also includes, in one embodiment, a request to execute an application program on the web

*server computer system 130. An application independent server process (AISP) 134 receives information contained in this request and responds by executing the desired application program and accessing application components 136 that are needed by the AICP 114.*" The preceding text clearly indicates that a user instantiates a user interface, where a user that wishes to access information and execute application using a web browser, which exemplifies a user interface.)(Column 3, lines 49-67, column 4, lines 1-15); and providing an access module which can be instantiated from said new user application executing on a first client system which cannot access data in said first database, wherein said first client system and second client system are contained in said plurality of client systems, wherein said access module enables a user to specify a first database and a search query, wherein said access module uses said first plurality of procedures to retrieve data matching said query from said first database (i.e.

*"Contemporary computer networks consist of a number of computer systems, called nodes, communicating with other computer systems via communication links. Typically, some of the nodes are client nodes and other nodes are server nodes. A client node formulates and delivers queries to a server node. A user of the client node enters the queries through a user interface operating on the client node. The server node evaluates the queries and delivers responses to the client node for display on the client user interface."* "Referring to FIG. 3, the present invention includes the AICP 114 and the AISP 134. The AICP 114 renders the graphical user interface (GUI) that is displayed to the user on the user interface 116. The AICP 114 also maintains a relationship between the control objects displayed on the user interface 116 and the application components 136 maintained on the web server 130. The AISP 134 tracks the state of the application components 136 along with the control objects displayed on the user workstation 110 that require updates of these application components. Whenever the state changes on either the client (control state) or the server (component state), the AICP 114 and AISP 134 take appropriate action based on the data description that defines the relationship between the GUI controls and the server application components 136 (hereafter referred to as server components) they represent."

Since the prior art of record discusses remote desktop connection, it clearly illustrates that a user who is accessing a first client systems (or computer) and connects to a second client systems (or remote computer/server) that the interfaces of each respective system is one and the same. Thus, sending the search criteria to said second client is in essence a "screen shot" that is being sent from the second client system to the first interface.)(Column 1, lines 12-27)

As per claims 6 and 10, Mitchell teaches a method further comprising implementing a second plurality of procedures according to a second interface, wherein said second plurality of procedures enable said access module to initiate and terminate an instance of said access module (i.e. *"In use, and referring to FIG. 5, a developer first designs (step 710) the layout of the user interface 116 that will ultimately be displayed on the user workstation 110 and in so doing establishes the relationships between the control objects 624 (FIG. 4) and the server components 136. Once this information is formulated, it is stored (step 712) in a description file 310. When the AICP 114 transmits a request to execute an application program 420 on the web server 130, the transaction processor 430 (FIG. 2) receives (step 714) the request, instantiates (step 718) an AISP 134 associated with the application program 420 if an instance is not already loaded in memory, and launches (step 720) the application program 420. Once the AICP 114 receives the description file 310, it transmits a connection request to the AISP 134. The AISP 134 receives (step 722) the connection request and loads (step 724) the description file 310 associated with the requested application program 420 into server memory."*)(Column 6, lines 25-42); and sending said data representing said operation and data representing said response to said second client, wherein said second client executes said operation using said response(i.e. *"In use, and referring to FIG. 5, a developer first designs (step 710) the layout of the user interface 116 that will ultimately be displayed on the user workstation 110 and in so doing establishes the relationships between the control objects 624 (FIG. 4) and the server components 136. Once this information is formulated, it is stored (step 712) in a*

description file 310. When the AICP 114 transmits a request to execute an application program 420 on the web server 130, the transaction processor 430 (FIG. 2) receives (step 714) the request, instantiates (step 718) an AISP 134 associated with the application program 420 if an instance is not already loaded in memory, and launches (step 720) the application program 420. Once the AICP 114 receives the description file 310, it transmits a connection request to the AISP 134. The AISP 134 receives (step 722) the connection request and loads (step 724) the description file 310 associated with the requested application program 420 into server memory.")(Column 6, lines 25-42).

As per claims 7 and 11, Mitchell teaches a method implementing a third plurality of procedures according to a third interface wherein said third plurality of procedures enable said access block to communicate an operation selected by said user, wherein said operation is executed on data accessed by said access module (i.e. "In use, and referring to FIG. 5, a developer first designs (step 710) the layout of the user interface 116 that will ultimately be displayed on the user workstation 110 and in so doing establishes the relationships between the control objects 624 (FIG. 4) and the server components 136. Once this information is formulated, it is stored (step 712) in a description file 310. When the AICP 114 transmits a request to execute an application program 420 on the web server 130, the transaction processor 430 (FIG. 2) receives (step 714) the request, instantiates (step 718) an AISP 134 associated with the application program 420 if an instance is not already loaded in memory, and launches (step 720) the application program 420. Once the AICP 114 receives the description file 310, it transmits a connection request to the AISP 134. The AISP 134 receives (step 722) the connection request and loads (step 724) the description file 310 associated with the requested application program 420 into server memory.")(Column 6, lines 25-42).

As per claims 8 and 12, Mitchell teaches a method wherein said operation is executed on a user application which retrieves said data from the corresponding

database (i.e. "Contemporary computer networks consist of a number of computer systems, called nodes, communicating with other computer systems via communication links. Typically, some of the nodes are client nodes and other nodes are server nodes. A client node formulates and delivers queries to a server node. A user of the client node enters the queries through a user interface operating on the client node. The server node evaluates the queries and delivers responses to the client node for display on the client user interface." "Referring to FIG. 3, the present invention includes the AICP 114 and the AISP 134. The AICP 114 renders the graphical user interface (GUI) that is displayed to the user on the user interface 116. The AICP 114 also maintains a relationship between the control objects displayed on the user interface 116 and the application components 136 maintained on the web server 130. The AISP 134 tracks the state of the application components 136 along with the control objects displayed on the user workstation 110 that require updates of these application components. Whenever the state changes on either the client (control state) or the server (component state), the AICP 114 and AISP 134 take appropriate action based on the data description that defines the relationship between the GUI controls and the server application components 136 (hereafter referred to as server components) they represent." Since the prior art of record discusses remote desktop connection, it clearly illustrates that a user who is accessing a first client systems (or computer) and connects to a second client systems (or remote computer/server) that the interfaces of each respective system is one and the same. Thus, sending the search criteria to said second client is in essence a "screen shot" that is being sent from the second client system to the first interface.)(Column 1, lines 12-27).

As per claims 17 and 18, Mitchell teaches the method wherein said first database is implemented external to said second database (column 1, lines 1-27).

***Response to Remarks/Argument***

4. Applicant's arguments filed 18 July 2006 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive for the reasons set forth below.

Applicant argues:

(1) "Mitchell clearly does not disclose or reasonably suggest the use of databases, as well as search criteria being used to perform a search in the database."

The Examiner disagrees. Mitchell teaches the use of databases (Queries are used in the Mitchell art, and clearly suggest the use of databases, because Microsoft's Computer Dictionary 5<sup>th</sup> Ed., page 433, defines query as 'to extract data from a database and present it for use'. For queries to be functional, there must be some type of databases that is involved, and although the prior art does not explicitly teach databases, the use of queries fulfills the missing gap)(see column 1, lines 1-27), as well as search criteria (i.e. queries)(column 1, lines 1-27) being used to perform a search in the database (previously addressed above.)(column 1-, lines 1-27).

(2) "Furthermore, Applicant draws the Examiner's attention that the invention of claim 1 operates in an environment where ' said first database is designed to be accessed using a second interface implemented in a second client system but not

implemented in said first client system, such that said second client system, but not said first client system can access said first database....' (Currently Amended, claim 1)"

The Examiner disagrees. The recitation ' said first database is designed to be accessed using a second interface implemented in a second client system but not implemented in said first client system, such that said second client system, but not said first client system can access said first database....' has not been given patentable weight because the recitation occurs in the preamble. A preamble is generally not accorded any patentable weight where it merely recites the purpose of a process or the intended use of a structure, and where the body of the claim does not depend on the preamble for completeness but, instead, the process steps or structural limitations are able to stand alone. See *In re Hirao*, 535 F.2d 67, 190 USPQ 15 (CCPA 1976) and *Kropa v. Robie*, 187 F.2d 150, 152, 88 USPQ 478, 481 (CCPA 1951).

Hence, the Applicant's arguments do not distinguish over the claimed invention over the prior art of record.

Any other arguments by the applicant are either more limiting than the claimed language or completely irrelevant.

### ***Conclusion***

5. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).



A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

#### ***Contact Information***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Farhan M. Syed whose telephone number is 571-272-7191. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30AM-5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jeffrey Gaffin can be reached on 571-272-4146. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

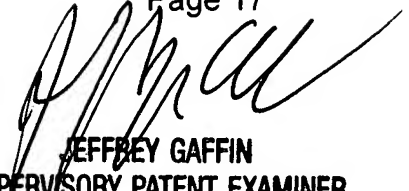
Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Application/Control Number: 10/728,433

Art Unit: 2165

FMS

Page 17

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Gaffin', is written over the printed name and title.

**JEFFREY GAFFIN**  
**SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER**  
**TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100**